

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas V. Ressemann Attorney Docket: TER1002USD1
Timothy B. Petrick

Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: 3738
Prior Appl.: 09/039,779

Filed: February 5, 2001 Examiner: Suzette Jackson

For: BIFURCATED PROSTHETIC GRAFT

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5/11/01
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09/17789688
02/07/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the following information is set forth in compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure, as well as the duty of others substantively involved in the preparation of the above-titled application.

The Applicant and others substantively involved in the preparation of the application are aware of the documents, cited on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Except for recently issued, commonly assigned, U.S. Patent No. 6,129,756, copies of the listed documents were provided in related prior application U.S. Serial No. 09/039,779, filed March 16, 1998. The present application relies on U.S. Serial No. 09/039,779 for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), these copies are not provided with this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of U.S. Patent No. 6,129,756 is enclosed herewith.

Certificate of Express Mailing (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No. EL517468799US and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 7, 2001

Signature: Jodi Jung

Name: Jodi Jung

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Applicants: Thomas V. Resemann et al.
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In addition, Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the existence of the following co-pending, commonly assigned Patent Applications:

Serial No. 09/166,055, filed October 5, 1998, entitled "Endovascular Graft System" (Attorney Reference No. TER1003US)

Serial No. 09/454,038, filed December 3, 1999, entitled "Endovascular Graft System" (Attorney Reference No. TER1004US)

Serial No. 09/538,997, filed March 30, 2000, entitled "Bifurcated Graft and Method Of Delivery" (Attorney Reference No. TER1005US)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of these applications are enclosed.

The present statement reflects the direct knowledge of the undersigned and information disclosed to the undersigned by the Applicant and others substantively involved in the preparation of the present application pursuant to their duty under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Applicant reserves the right to show, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, that any one or more of the documents cited on the PTO-1449 form is not prior art to the present invention.

Pursuant to the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Chapter 609, Applicant requests that the Examiner consider each of the listed documents and initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form (submitted in duplicate).

Information Disclosure Statement
Applicants: Thomas V. Ressemann et al.
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It is believed that no fees are due in connection with this submission.
However if this is incorrect, please charge any additional fees to Deposit Account
Number 16-2312.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/7/01

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